



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of :
Hisashi ICHIMURA et al. : Docket No. 2001-0969
Serial No. 09/902,256 : Group Art Unit 1751
Filed July 11, 2001 :
ANIMAL FIBER SUPERIOR IN SHRINK :
PROOFING AND METHOD FOR :
PREPARATION THEREOF :

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED
OCT 15 2001

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. _____.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

- b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. ☒ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 3 to 5,
- d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. ☒ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:


The following are cited:

- (1) Japanese Patent Laid Open No. 50-126997, published on October 6, 1975 to Fukui et al., discussed on page 3 of the specification;
- (2) Japanese Patent Laid Open No. 55-142759, published on November 7, 1980 to Thorsen (Corresponding to U.S. 4,214,330, issued July 29, 1980, copy attached), discussed on page 4 of the specification;
- (3) Japanese Patent Laid Open No. 03-019961, published on January 29, 1991 to Ota et al. (English abstract attached hereto), discussed on page 4 of the specification;
- (4) Japanese Patent Laid Open No. 10-072762, published on March 17, 1998 to Oshima et al. (English abstract attached hereto), discussed on page 5 of the specification;
- (5) Japanese Patent Laid Open No. 2001-003238, published on January 9, 2001 to Umehara et al. (English abstract attached hereto); and
- (6) Japanese Patent Laid Open No. 2001-164460, published on June 19, 2001 to Nakase et al. (English abstract attached hereto).

5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 11, 2001

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: October 11, 2001

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2001-0969SERIAL NO.
09/902,256APPLICANT
Hisashi ICHIMURA et al.FILING DATE
July 11, 2001GROUP
1751

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|--|--------------------|--------|---------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| AA | | 4,214,330 | 7/1980 | Thorsen | | | |
| AB | | | | | | | |
| AC | | | | | | | |
| AD | | | | | | | |
| AE | | | | | | | |
| AF | | | | | | | |
| AG | | | | | | | |
| AH | | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO | |
|--|----|--------------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|-----------------------|---|
| | AI | 50-126997 | 10/1975 | Japan | | | | X |
| | AJ | 55-142759 | 11/1980 | Japan | | | | X |
| | AK | 3-19961 | 1/1991 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | AL | 10-72762 | 3/1998 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | AM | 2001-3238 | 1/2001 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | AN | 2001-164460 | 6/2001 | Japan | | | Abstract | |

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|--|----|--|
| | AO | |
| | AP | |
| | AQ | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED